Docket No.: 50325-0098

## AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph page A, paragraph 2 with the following amended paragraph:

A working group of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) has proposed replacing the ToS field 122 of Network Layer packets 120 with a one-octet differentiated services (DS) field 132 that can be loaded with a differentiated services codepoint (DSCP). Layer 3 devices that are DS compliant apply a particular per-hop forwarding behavior to data packets based on the contents of their DS fields 132. Examples of per-hop forwarding behaviors include expedited forwarding and assured forwarding. The DS field 132 is typically loaded by DS compliant intermediate devices located at the border of a DS domain, which is a set of DS compliant intermediate devices under common network administration. Thereafter, interior DS compliant devices along the path apply the corresponding forwarding behavior to the packet 120.

A

24